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26. — *Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation in 1838–1839.*  
By FRANCES ANNE KEMBLE. New York : Harper and Brothers.  
1863. 12mo. pp. 337.

IN some respects this is the most valuable of the many recent publications on slavery. It is especially valuable because it is not a recent work, but was written nearly a quarter of a century ago, when the subject was little agitated, and there was no strong direction of the public mind toward the intrinsic turpitude of the institution which now has the whole world opposed to it. Moreover, it cannot have been written with the remotest view to publication ; for the author was then a wife, and though in her journal she never speaks unkindly of her husband, she speaks more freely of him than her wifely relation would have permitted so long as it continued. Mr. Butler's plantations — he had two — were evidently equal to the average, if not superior, as to the humanity of the master and the comfort of the slaves. He seems to have had, indeed, no excess of kindly feeling ; but he was neither niggardly nor cruel. Yet the daily record of his wife during her Georgian residence bears ample testimony to a condition of things among those slaves, and in their relations to the dominant race, which the most daring sophist could not undertake to justify or palliate, unless on the assumption that the negro is a soulless brute, and that of an inferior order. We trust that this "South-Side View" will be read and pondered by those who have lent their too easy faith to mere transient visitors in the land of bondage ; for the prison-house has its secrets which the jailers are not over ready to disclose, and which reveal themselves only to those who dwell or sojourn within their circle.

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27. — *A Supplement to URE'S Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines, containing a clear Exposition of their Principles and Practice.* From the last Edition, edited by ROBERT S. HUNT, F. R. S., F. S. S., Keeper of Mining Records, formerly Professor of Physics, Government School of Mines, &c., &c., assisted by numerous Contributors eminent in Science and familiar with Manufactures. Illustrated with Seven Hundred Engravings on Wood. New York : D. Appleton & Co. 1863. 8vo. pp. 1096.

DR. URE published his Dictionary in 1839. He died in 1857, in his eightieth year. Until he became too infirm for the labor, he kept the work level with the progress of the time by modifications and additions introduced in the successive issues. At the time of his death,

a plan was organized "for bringing the Dictionary to the present state of knowledge." This was effected through the collaboration of some forty or fifty men of science, and the result of their undertaking appeared in 1860, under the editorship of Mr. Hunt, in three huge octavo volumes. The volume now before us consists of the new matter in this edition, *minus* "those portions of the work which concerned the English mainly, their commercial and manufacturing resources and statistics, the least important historic notices, and some definitions in pure science, which seemed hardly embraced within the defined scope of the work." If these omissions have been judiciously made, (and we have no reason to think otherwise,) they cannot materially affect the practical usefulness of the American volume. And it certainly was wise to publish this one volume, rather than to republish the three; for this will be generally purchased by the owners of the earlier editions of Ure, while few of them would have been willing purchasers of material the greater part of which was already in their possession. What strikes us most forcibly in this volume is the very large proportion of the original titles that recur in it, indicating that there was (and probably there is now) hardly a "closed canon" in any department of the useful arts, that the enlarged knowledge and improved processes of the last few years are as extensive in compass as they are momentous in interest, and that the literature of applied science is as affluent in novelty as is that of fancy, or of speculative physics, or of mental philosophy. The single article on Iron fills more than fifty closely printed pages, with no less than thirty-six diagrams of new machinery; that on Coal-Gas, forty pages with thirty-one diagrams; that on Bread, thirty-two pages with twenty-eight diagrams; while that on Calico-Printing — the longest, we believe, of all — takes up nearly sixty pages, with forty-five diagrams. From this statement it will appear how essential the supplementary volume is to preserve intact the value of the original work; while the standard worth of this latter is established by the consent of the eminent men concerned in the republication to the expediency of enlarging it, instead of superseding it by an entirely new Dictionary.

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28. — *War Pictures from the South.* By B. ESTVAN, Colonel of Cavalry in the Confederate Army. New York: Appleton & Co. 1863. 12mo. pp. 352.

COLONEL ESTVAN — a foreigner — took service in the Confederate army at the commencement of the war. His sympathy with the